**Defects in Sahar International Airport, Bombay**

56. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in phase one of Sahar International Airport, Bombay, there are defects in apron and taxi tracks;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to remove these defects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Some deficiencies were noticed in the apron and taxi track of the New International Terminal (Phase I) at Bombay Airport.

(b) The defects in the asphaltic construction of taxi track were largely due to high paraffin content in the bitumen. The cracks in the concrete apron are due to repetitive usage of the pavements and fuel spillage.

(c) The deficiencies in the taxi track have since been rectified. Four of the parking bays in the apron have been repaired and the rectification work on the remaining is also being taken up. Strict quality control measures have been enforced to check recurrence of deficiencies.

**Revamping the monitoring of adult education programme**

57. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the monitoring of the adult education programme is proposed to be revamped and an action plan has been formulated for this purpose;

(b) if so, whether two day Conference was also held recently in this regard; and

(c) what were the decisions arrived at and the main proposals framed for revamping the Adult Education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A Computerised Management System has been envisaged in the National Literacy Mission to ensure reliable and steady flow of information for improvement in management at all levels. This aspect was considered in the two day Conference of State Education Secretaries and Directors of Education held in June, 1988. Accordingly, a Computerised Management Information System (MIS) has been planned. Management Information System Formats have been developed with the help of National Institute of Information Technology, New Delhi and presently they are in the field for testing. With the adoption of MIS for adult education programme, scientific and reliable feedback will be available to strengthen the Monitoring System.

**Equity participation of foreign hoteliers in Indian hotel establishments**

58. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent decision of Government to allow 51 per cent equity participation to foreign hoteliers in Indian hotel establishments are likely to give a big boost to the tourism industry in the country;

(b) whether there have been a number of queries from foreign hoteliers in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the other decisions taken by Government to give a boost to the tourism and what steps have been taken by the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) The recent decision of Government to allow 51 per cent foreign equity participation in the hotel and convention industry in India is to mobilise additional investment which is likely to give a boost to the tourism industry in the country.

(b) Proposals from foreign hoteliers for investment in hotels in India are not received directly by the Department of Tourism but through the Indian promoters who are making queries in this regard.

(c) To encourge private investment in the tourism industry. Government have recently announced for the industry, tax benefits under Section 80 HHC and 80 CC, and enhancement of interest subsidy for hotels of the 1 to 3 star categories. Besides, the terms and conditions of foreign collaboration have been liberalised to help accelerate development of hotels and convention facilities of international standards. At the instance of the Ministry of Tourism, a number of State Governments have given either tourism or hotels the status of an industry thereby making them eligible for such incentives as are available to other industries in the respective States.

**Mass Exodus of Pilots to Foreign Airlines**

59. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 4272 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether Government have since obtained information from Gulf Air to ascertain that nearly 200 of the 530 pilots in the Indian Airlines have applied for jobs in Gulf Air;

(b) whether it is also confirmed by the Senior IA officials that 200 pilots were attempting to leave the Indian Airlines;

(c) whether this would create a great difficulty in India; and

(d) if so, what steps are being considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) (a) to (d) Gulf Air had floated a global advertisement for Boeing 737 pilots offering lucrative salaries. Information from Gulf Air offices has revealed that they have a total of about five vacancies, so the question of Indian Airlines' Pilots leaving the Corporation in large numbers does not arise.

**Accident of Rail Engine near Tillajamalpura near Bhopal**

60. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of residents of Tillajamalpura near Bhopal were run over by a railway engine on September 1st, 1988 at the track near Tillajamalpura;

(b) whether a number of accidents are taking place on this track;

(c) if so, whether despite various accidents on this track, the railway authorities have not improved the tracks and the accidents are continuing; and

(d) whether the Railways have decided to improve the tracks in a number of places in Madhya Pradesh during 1988-89, and if so, the number of tracks to be improved and number of those which have already been improved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) Improvement of track is a continuous process. Statistics of track renewals is not maintained State-wise but railway-wise. Madhya Pradesh is mainly traversed by Central, Western and South Eastern Railways. The details of track renewals on these Railways during 1987-88 are as follows:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Central | — | 581 kms. |
| South Eastern | — | 640 kms. |
| Western | — | 755 kms. |